

MONERMA CYLINDRICA NEW TO LOUISIANA

by

R. Dale Thomas and Bryan E. Dutton, The Herbarium, Department of Biology, Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe. 71209.

While collecting plants for Dutton's Masters of Science thesis project, the authors collected Monerma cylindrica (Willd.) Coss. & Dur., thintail, Poaceae, new to the state. This plant was not listed by Allen (1980) or Thomas and Allen (1984). Hitchcock and Chase (1950) gave the range for thintail as "Salt marshes, San Francisco Bay, California, south to San Diego and Santa Catalina Island; introduced from the old world."

The authors collected this grass on disturbed clay soil near the Mermentau River in coastal Cameron Parish, Louisiana. It closely resembles Parapholis incurva, sicklegrass (especially small plants in thick vegetation) and was so determined by the authors. Several sheets were distributed to various herbaria as Parapholis. The authors are deeply indebted to Dr. Charles M. Allen, the foremost authority on Louisiana grasses, for the correct determination of this species. The Monerma cylindrica population is along a gravel road, in a gravel parking lot, and in disturbed areas around a pipe yard. It seems to be thriving and is in no danger of not surviving at present. The citation is:

CAMERON PARISH, LOUISIANA. Just east of the Mermentau River south of La. 82 along access road and in storage yards of Crain Brothers and Aminoil Company on west edge of Grand Chenier, La., T15S, R6W. Common.
Thomas 88432 and Dutton 1665 12 May 1984

LITERATURE CITED

- Allen, C. M. 1980. Grasses of Louisiana. University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette. 358pp.
Hitchcock, A. S. and Agnes Chase. 1950. Manual of the Grasses of the United States. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 1051pp.
Thomas, R. D. and C. M. Allen. 1984. A Preliminary Checklist of the Pteridosperms, Gymnosperms, and Monocotyledons of Louisiana. Contributions of The Herbarium of Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe. No. 4. 55pp.